

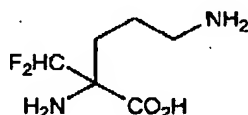
U.S. Application No. 10/788,728  
Attorney Docket No.: 31869.703.301  
(formerly WFRST.006C1)

### Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. As presented below, claims 1, 3, 5, 14 are amended herein, and claims 2, 4, 6-13, and 15-17 are cancelled herein. Therefore, upon entry of these amendments, claims 1, 3, 5, 14, 18, and 19 are pending.

#### Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of the formula

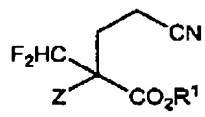


1

the process comprising:

providing an intermediate compound comprising fluorine and a nitrile moiety; and  
selectively reducing said nitrile moiety to form an amine moiety,

wherein said intermediate compound is:

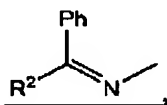


12

wherein R<sup>1</sup> is linear or branched C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>4</sub> alkyl and Z is

(i) -NH<sub>2</sub> or

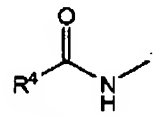
(ii) a moiety selected from the group consisting of



Page 2 of 15

U.S. Application No. 10/788,728  
 Attorney Docket No.: 31869.703.201  
 (formerly WFRST.006C1)

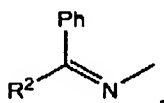
wherein  $R^2$  is hydrogen, linear or branched  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl or aryl, and



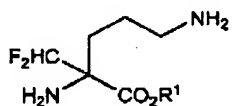
wherein  $R^4$  is linear or branched  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl, alkoxy, or aryl.

2. (canceled)

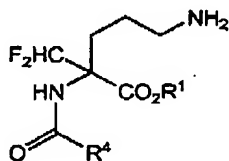
3. (currently amended) The process of Claim [[2]] 1, wherein Z is



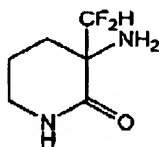
further comprising hydrolyzing the intermediate compound to produce a compound having one of the following formulas



7



9



10.

4. (canceled)

U.S. Application No. 10/788,728  
 Attorney Docket No.: 31869.703.201  
 (formerly WFRST.006C1)

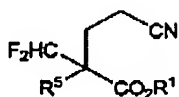
5. (currently amended) The process of Claim [[4]] 3 further comprising hydrolyzing the compound ~~comprising an ester or amide moiety of formula 7, 9, or 10~~ to form the compound of formula 1.

6.- 13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) The process of Claim [[13]] 1, wherein the intermediate compound is ~~an alkyl 4-cyanobutanoate~~ ethyl 2-benzylideneamino-2-difluoromethyl-4-cyanobutanote, ethyl 2-(diphenylmethylene)amino-2-difluoromethyl-4-cyanobutanoate, ethyl 2-amino-2-difluoromethyl-4-cyanobutanoate, ethyl 2-acetylamino-2-difluoromethyl-4-cyanobutanote, or a salt thereof.

15.- 17. (canceled)

18. (original) A compound of the formula



wherein  $R^1$  is linear or branched  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl; and

wherein  $R^5$  is:

(a)  $N=C(R^2)Ph$ , wherein  $R^2$  is hydrogen, linear or branched  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl or aryl;

(b)  $NH_2$ ; or

(c)  $HN-C(=O)R^4$ , wherein  $R^4$  is linear or branched  $C_1$  to  $C_4$  alkyl, alkoxy or aryl.

U.S. Application No. 10/788,728  
Attorney Docket No.: 31869.703.201  
(formerly WFRST.006C1)

19. (original) The compound of Claim 18 wherein R<sup>1</sup> is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, and t-butyl.